SUPERFUND

Cleaning Up New England

FIVE-YEAR UPDATE

SUPERFUND FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

Landfill and Resource Recovery, Inc. (L&RR)
North Smithfield, RI

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND

MAINTAINING AND MONITORING SUPERFUND SITES: *After a Superfund Site or portion of a Superfund Site has been cleaned up, EPA continues to monitor the site to ensure the cleanup is operating effectively over time. Five-Year Reviews provide an opportunity to fully evaluate the implementation and performance of a cleanup and determine whether it remains protective of human health and the environment.*

SITE BACKGROUND:

The Landfill and Resource Recovery, Inc. (L&RR) site is a 28-acre landfill on a 36-acre parcel of land. The site originally was a sand and gravel pit and was used for small-scale refuse disposal from 1927 to 1974. In 1974, the site was sold and developed into a large-scale disposal facility accepting commercial, municipal, and industrial wastes. Until 1979, an estimated 1 million gallons of hazardous wastes were accepted and disposed of with other wastes in the central portion of the landfill. In 1979, the operator placed a polyvinyl chloride cover over the area containing hazardous waste to prevent rainwater from entering. Landfilling of commercial and residential wastes continued until 1985, when the owners closed the landfill and placed another synthetic cover over most of the landfill. Soil was placed over the synthetic cover and it was partially planted with vegetation.

The Site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in 1982. EPA did a full investigation of the Site, and in September 1988 signed off on a cleanup plan, or Record of Decision (ROD). That plan required construction of a landfill cap and an enclosed flare to thermally treat the landfill gases. The cleanup was eventually completed in the summer of 1995. Since that time, the potentially responsible parties have been operating and maintaining the remedy as well as conducting monitoring to ensure the remedy remains protective. Since the cleanup, EPA has come back to the site every five years to do comprehensive Five Year Reviews of the cleanup.

FIVE YEAR REVIEW 2014:

This year EPA is doing its scheduled Forth 5-Year review of the L&RR superfund site. In the last few Five Year Reviews, EPA has recommended continued monitoring and testing of groundwater in the area. We have existing monitoring wells, and EPA requires sampling of the well water for contaminants that could be coming from the L&RR Site.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
ADDITIONAL SAMPLING:

The on-going sampling work includes additional monitoring along the Trout Brook Pond, next to the landfill, including monitoring done last summer and continued to this spring, 2014. Contamination was found in the groundwater along Trout Brook Pond. Therefore, it is a standard EPA's practice to test nearby residential drinking water wells.

The contractor who does the landfill operations and monitoring under EPA and the State oversight, plans to contact several nearby homeowners and have their private wells tested in the next few weeks. Results of this testing will be available and will be part of the 5-Year Review report which is expected to be issued in September 2014.

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS:

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The Superfund Process:
Discovery *and* Cleanup *for a* Long-Term Site